

Hood County Commissioners' Court RESOLUTION Denouncing Changes to Title IX

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2024, Texas Governor Greg Abbott sent a letter to the President of the United States asserting the President has exceeded his constitutional authority in rewriting certain aspects of Title IX (20 USC §§1681-1688) and instructing the Texas Education Agency to ignore the President's "illegal dictate"; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2024, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton sued to stop an unlawful federal rule issued by the Biden Administration that destroys protections for women in educational institutions by mandating compliance with radical gender ideology. Attorney General Paxton stated: "This attempt to subvert federal law is plainly illegal, undemocratic, and divorced from reality. Texas will always take the lead to oppose Biden's extremist, destructive policies that put women at risk."; and

WHEREAS, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 has historically served as a cornerstone in the protection of students from discrimination based on sex in educational programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the entire time since Title IX was enacted, both the Department of Education and recipients of Federal financial assistance have understood Title IX's prohibition on sex discrimination to refer to a person's *biological* sex; and

WHEREAS, recent changes announced by the Biden administration to Title IX regulations, significantly altering the existing framework and potentially undermining the rights and protections of students, are set to take effect on August 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, these illegal changes may introduce confusion and ambiguity regarding the implementation and enforcement of Title IX, potentially jeopardizing the safety and well-being of students in our county, the State of Texas and the United States; and

WHEREAS, these proposed changes to Title IX far exceed the President's Executive Powers and therefore far exceed his constitutional authority.

NOW, LET IT BE HEREBY RESOLVED,

THAT the Hood County Commissioners' Court denounces the recent changes to Title IX regulations proposed by the Biden Administration, expressing deep concern over the potential negative impact on the Hood County students and community; and

THAT the Hood County Commissioners' Court urges the Biden Administration to reconsider these changes and engage in meaningful dialogue with stakeholders,

including educators, administrators, parents, and students, to ensure that any modifications to Title IX uphold the fundamental rights and protections of all students; and

THAT the **Hood County Commissioners' Court** calls on the Granbury, Tolar, and Lipan ISDs to reaffirm their commitment to maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for all students, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence; and

THAT the **Hood County Commissioners' Court** calls on the Granbury, Tolar, and Lipan ISDs to consider finding alternatives to accepting federal funds so as to cease seeking and accepting financial and other assistance from the Federal government; and

THAT the **Hood County Commissioners' Court** calls on the Granbury, Tolar, and Lipan ISDs to join in this Resolution; and

THAT copies of this resolution be transmitted to TEA Commissioner Morath, the Texas State Board of Education, to the superintendents and the Presidents of the Board of Trustees of Granbury, Tolar and Lipan ISD, as well as other relevant stakeholders to underscore the importance of this matter to the Hood County community and to seek support for our efforts to ensure these changes are challenged at the highest levels.

Dated this 14th day of May 2024.

Ron Massingill, County Judge

Kevin Andrews, Commissioner Pct. 1

Nannette Samuelson, Commissioner Pct. 2

Jack Wilson, Commissioner Pct. 3

Dave Eagle, Commissioner Pct. 4

Christine Leftwich, County Clerk